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Dated: May 24, 2004

Signature:

Roger A. Heppermann
(Roger A. Heppermann)

Docket No.: 06005/35530
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

HAVEKOST et al.

Application No.: 09/777,225

Art Unit: 2113

Filed: February 5, 2001

Examiner: C. S. McCarthy

For: HIERARCHICAL FAILURE MANAGEMENT
FOR PROCESS CONTROL SYSTEMS

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 24, 2004, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 11 of this paper.